



ACUB Fact Sheet

Fort Huachuca



Background

Fort Huachuca supports Army and Department of Defense aviation elements as home to the premier restricted military Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) training airspace in the western United States. The R2303 military air complex covers 800 square miles of low density air space use. It allows concurrent training for the Army's UAS School, Special Electronic Mission Aircraft, Active Air Force pilot training from the 162d and 355th wings at Luke and Davis-Monthan Air Force Bases, the Air National Guard Advanced Airlift Tactical Training Center, and the Arizona Air National Guard. Fort Huachuca also is playing an increasingly important role as a facilitator of Department of Homeland Security Customs and Border Patrol aviation operations. To maintain the required level of mission readiness, these units require the ability to conduct realistic ground training and aviation operations on and around the installation.

Fort Huachuca's testing mission covers a wide range of command, control, communications, computer, intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance systems (C4ISR). Fort Huachuca's C4ISR test range extends throughout the Sierra Vista sub-watershed, as far east as Deming New Mexico, north to Casa Grande Arizona and west to the Yuma Proving Ground area. Maintaining low levels of electronic interference and lines of sight in the immediate vicinity of Fort Huachuca are critical to preserving the C4ISR test range, which completes a military 'virtual test range' that extends from the White Sands/Fort Bliss complex to Edwards Air Force Base. The ability to test systems and equipment over long distances in real-world conditions is critical to fielding the best equipment for our military.

Fort Huachuca has training and testing restrictions due to threatened and endangered species requirements and urban development. In addition, local growth is rapidly increasing throughout the region and threatens the post's airfields and training areas. If left unchecked, this growth and its associated impacts on airspace, water and the electromagnetic spectrum will ultimately result in the degradation of military training and deployment capabilities.

Objective

The Fort Huachuca ACUB program will reduce potential for incompatible land use by buffering agricultural and undeveloped areas under the R2303 airspace;

manage the regional water table adjacent to the San Pedro Riparian Area with its associated critical habitat for the Huachuca water umbel; and minimize the expansion of electromagnetic background noise that could adversely impact installation abilities to conduct realistic electromagnetic training and testing.

Partners

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY, THE ARIZONA CHAPTER

Endeavors to protect Arizona's diverse natural communities through the purchase of land. For further information call 520-357-6076 or visit <http://www.nature.org/wherewework/northamerica/states/arizona/>.

UPPER SAN PEDRO PARTNERSHIP

Coordinates and cooperates in the identification, prioritization and implementation of comprehensive policies and projects to assist in meeting water needs in the Sierra Vista sub-watershed of the Upper San Pedro River Basin. For further information call 520-439-6430 or visit <http://www.uspppartnership.com/>.

SANTA CRUZ AND COCHISE COUNTIES

For further information on Santa Cruz County call 520-375-7930 or visit <http://www.co.santa-cruz.az.us/>. For further information on Cochise County call 520-586-8180 or visit <http://www.co.cochise.az.us/ccwebsite/Default.asp>.

SOUTHEAST ARIZONA LAND TRUST

Works cooperatively with private land owners to protect the natural ecosystems and historic ranching traditions of Southeastern Arizona. For further information call 520-455-5592.

Installation ACUB POC

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